S.No.	Name of High Court	Controlling System
5.	Patna	There is a separate Vigilance Department in the High Court to look into the complaints. If needed , the Court takes suitable action against the Judl. officer.
6.	Sikkim	The High court itself conducts enquiry. The Court has not yet framed any separate specific rule in this regard.
7.	Delhi	The Chief Justice every year nominates group of Judl. Officers under the direct supervision and control for the purpose of inspection and vigilance matters.
8.	Bombay	There is a Special Investigation Department for the purpose.
9.	Karnataka	There is a Vigilance Cell for the purpose.
10.	J and K	The complaints are looked into by the Registrar (Vigilance) who submits his report to the Chief Justice.

Backlog of Cases Pending in the Courts

1318. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government's attention has been drawn to the concern expressed in highest quarters about the ever increasing backlog of cases pending in High Courts and the Supreme Court of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) what are the details of the case instituted, disposed off during the years 1998 and 1999 and pending as on 31st December, 1997, 1998 and 1999 in various High Courts and the Supreme Court of India; and

(d) the details of the measures taken for early disposal of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAEJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) While speaking at a function in January, 2000 to commemorate the golden Jubilee of the

Supreme Court of India, the Hon'ble President expressed concern over the delay in the disposal of cases in the courts and hoped that the Apex court would lead the way for an accountable judiciary that would dispense quick, affordable and incorruptible justice. Referring to the adoption of the Restatement of Values of Judicial Life by the Chief Justices Conference, he said that it was a step towards self-reform.

(c) Statements I and II in this regard are enclosed (*See* below).

(d) Various steps have been taken by the Government for speedy disposal of cases. These include amendment of the Civil Procedure Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure, increase in the number of posts of Judges/Judicial Officers, establishment of Special Court/tribunals and adoption of alternative modes of dispute resolution, such as, arbitration and conciliation. Lok Adalats have been given a statutory base as supplementary forum for resolution of disputes.

In addition to the above, the Supreme Court of India and various High Courts have taken a number of steps for expeditious disposal of cases, viz, grouping and classification of cases involving similar question of law, setting up of specialised benches, computerization of records, etc.

Statement-I

Details of the cases Instituted and Disposed of during the years 1998 and 1999 in the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

1998		1999	
No. of cases Instituted	No. of cases disposed	No. of cases Instituted	No. of cases disposed
36559	35233	34683	34707

HIGH COURT

	1998		1999		
Name of the High Court	No. of cases Instituted	No. of cases disposed	No of cases Instituted	No. of cases disposed	As on
Allahabad	183740	146579	89669	73655	6/99
Andhra Pradesh	157007	144367	102290	98123	9/99

Name of the High Court	No. of cases Instituted	No. of cases disposed	No of cases Instituted	No. of cases disposed	As on
Bombay	99789	84881	82785	59906	9/99
Calcutta	77543	64594	35876	29182	6/99
Delhi	71477	61887	29334	31453	6/99
Gauhati	21412	17540	Not Available		
Gujarat	58571	56422	Not Available		
Himachal Pradesh	10870	9665	6965	6447	9/99
J and K	28886	34275	11724	28993	6/99
Karnataka	75336	120653	64391	71976	9/99
Kerala	137549	103579	108997	90897	9/99
Madhya Pradesh	89139	78719	70293	61813	9/99
Madras	136331	121581	110656	94930	9/99
Orissa	54431	36926	39034	26888	9/99
Patna	103985	105833	77435	77345	9/99
Punjab and Haryana	132472	131306	67130	60328	6/99
Rajasthan	61613	52764	48888	36655	9/99
Sikkim	1076	699	391	660	9/99
TOTAL	501227	1372270			

Statement-II

Details of the cases pending as on 31st December 1997, 1998 and during 1999 in the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

Year	1997	1998	1999
No. of cases pending	19032	20358	20334

HIGH COURTS

Name of the	No.of cases pending			
High Court	1997	1998	1999	(As on)
Allahabad	865,455	796129	812143	6/99
Andhra Pradesh	133,211	145851	150018	9/99
Bombay	237,618	252526	275405	9/99
Calcutta	282,209	295158	301852	6/99

Name of the High Court	No.of cases pending 1997	1998	1999	(As on)
Delhi	163,430	173020	170901	6/99
Gauhati	34,165	38037	NA	
Gujarat	122,966	121532	Not Available	
Himachal Pradesh	13,352	14557	11909	9/99
J and K	98,645	93256	75987	6/99
Karnataka	135,389	90072	82487	9/99
Kerala	250,261	284231	302331	9/99
Madhya Pradesh	83,131	93551	102031	9/99
Madras	326,619	341369	357095	9/99
Orissa	84,897	102402	114548	9/99
Patna	84,666	82818	82908	9/99
Punjab and Haryana	170,671	171837	178639	6/99
Rajasthan	98,416	107265	119498	9/99
Sikkim	95	472	203	9/99

Filling up of the Sanctioned Strength of Judges

1319. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there exist many vacancies of judges all over the country and 31 posts of judges are sanctioned for filling up;

(b) if so, the number of vacancies of judges in all the High Courts of the country as on 31st October, 1999; and

(c) the steps taken to filling up the sanctioned strength of 31 judges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) the number of vacancies in the High Courts, as on 31st October, 1999 was 147, including 28 newly-created posts of Judges/Additionasl Judges.

(c) The filling up of vacancies in the High Courts is a consultative process among the Constitutional authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising in High Courts on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges.